

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the title with the following amended title:

~~A PURIFIED RETROVIRAL ENVELOPE POLYPEPTIDE, ISOLATED NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAID POLYPEPTIDE, VECTORS AND USE THEREOF~~

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, beginning at line 27, with the following amended paragraph:

The NCBI Basic Local Alignment Search Tool (BLAST) is available from several sources, including the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI, Bethesda, Md.) And on the Internet, for use in connection with the sequence analysis programs blastp, blastn, blastx, tblastn and tblastx. ~~It can be accessed at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/BLAST/>. A description of how to determine sequence identity using this program is available at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/BLAST/blast_help.html.~~

Please replace the paragraphs at page 21, lines 9 and 11, with the following amended paragraphs:

The mouse URL:

`<http://www\[.\]DOTncbi\[.\]DOTnlm\[.\]DOTnih\[.\]DOTgov/LocusLink/LocRpt.cgi?!=19775>`

T h e h u m a n U R L :
`<http://www\[.\]DOTncbi\[.\]DOTnlm\[.\]DOTnih\[.\]DOTgov/LocusLink/LocRpt.cgi?!=9213>`

(These URLs have been inactivated by replacement of “.” with “DOT”.)

Please amend the paragraphs at page 21, lines 13-19 by replacing them with the following amended paragraphs:

Figure 1

Alignment of amino acid sequences of selected MLVs (from top to bottom, SEQ ID NOS:22-52) in the VR3 region. Residues corresponding to arginine 212 are shown in the rectangular box.

Figure 2

Amino acid aligning of SL3-2 (SEQ ID NO:2) and MCF 247 (SEQ ID NO:53) envelopes: The non-homologous regions of SU, including VR3 region, are marked by brackets.

Please amend the paragraph at page 24, lines 21-22 by replacing it with the following amended paragraph:

The primer (111019: AACAATTTCACACAGGAAACAGC, SEQ ID NO:3) was used as the end primer in all reactions. Other primers used are shown in table 1.

Please amend the paragraphs at page 25, line 1 to page 26, line 6 (end of table 2) by replacing them with the following amended paragraphs:

The primer (111019 :AACAATTTCACACAGGAAACAGC SEQ ID NO:3) was used as the end primer in all reactions. Other primers used are shown in table 1.

Table 1: Downstream primers

Library	Primer name	Primer Sequence
SL3-2/MCF VRA	B8142D01	GTTCGCCCCGGTCACACTGTGCCAACAGGGTGT GGAGGGCCGAGA <u>SEQ ID NO:4</u>
SL3-2/MCF VRB	A0341A02	CTTAAGCGAGGAAACACTCCTCAGAATCAGGGC CCCTGTTATGATTCTCAGCGGTCTCCAGTGAC ATCAAGGGTGCCACACCGGGGGTCGA <u>SEQ ID NO:5</u>
SL3-2/MCF VR3	A0341A01	GGTAAAAGGCCAGCTGGGACGGCCCAAAGTA TGGGGACTAAGACTGTACCGATCCACAGGGATC GACCCGGTGACCCGGTTCTCT <u>SEQ ID NO:6</u>
SL3-2/MCF Leader	B8142D02	CTAATAGTCCTGGATCTTATAAGGGCAGGA GTATCAGTACAACATGACAGC <u>SEQ ID NO:7</u>
SL3-2/MCF alternatin g VR3 library	A0571A05	GGTAAAAGGCCAGCTGGGACGSNYCNAAGYN TGGGGACTAAGACTGTACCGATCCACARGRAYH GACCCGGTGACCCGGTTCTCT <u>SEQ ID NO:8</u>
SL3-2/MCF VR3 RT	T3130F07	GGTAAAAGGCCAGCTGGGACGCCTCCAAAGCA TGGGGACTAAGACTGTACCGATCCACAAGGACC GACCCGGTGACCCGGTTCTCT <u>SEQ ID NO:9</u>
SL3-2/MCF VR3 RI	T3130F08	GGTAAAAGGCCAGCTGGGACGCCTCCAAAGCA TGGGGACTAAGACTGTACCGATCCACAAGGATC GACCCGGTGACCCGGTTCTCT <u>SEQ ID NO:10</u>
SL3-2/MCF VR3 GT	T3130F09	GGTAAAAGGCCAGCTGGGACGCCTCCAAAGCA TGGGGACTAAGACTGTACCGATCCACAGGGACC GACCCGGTGACCCGGTTCTCT <u>SEQ ID NO:11</u>
SL3-2/MCF VR3 GI	T3130F10	GGTAAAAGGCCAGCTGGGACGCCTCCAAAGCA TGGGGACTAAGACTGTACCGATCCACAGGGATC GACCCGGTGACCCGGTTCTCT <u>SEQ ID NO:12</u>

Upstream fragments

The upstream fragments were made using the primer (111020: GATTAAGTTGGGT AAGCCAGGG SEQ ID NO:13) as the end primer. Other primers used are shown in table 2. PCR conditions were otherwise the same as those for downstream fragments.

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Table 2: Upstream primers

Construct	Primer name	
SL3-2/MCF VRA	B8087E02	CACAGTGTGACCGGGGCAAAC <u>SEQ ID NO:14</u>
SL3-2/MCF VRB	B8087E04	AGGGAGTGTTCTCGCTTAAG <u>SEQ ID NO:15</u>
SL3-2/MCF VR3	B8087E03	GTCCCAGCTGGCCCTTTACC <u>SEQ ID NO:16</u>
SL3-2/MCF Leader	B8087E05	TAAGATTCCCAGGACTATTAG <u>SEQ ID NO:17</u>

Please insert the following paragraph at page 45 after line 2:

Towers et al 1999, PNAS vol. 97, no. 22 pp 12295-12299.